



# Indiana State Board of Education

Room 225 State House  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2798

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Jeff Zaring, State Board Administrator  
**DATE:** October 27, 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Spotlight on Learning – North Daviess 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School

This month we focus on perhaps the smallest school in Indiana to have implemented the New Tech™ Learning model, with what ranks among the fastest implementation in the United States. The program has been funded primarily by local dollars because the corporation does not have a large business base to draw financial support from.

The North Daviess 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School includes the New Tech curriculum, an Early College initiative, and the “Living Textbook” program, which particularly is the subject of the Spotlight because of its relationship to the Board’s [Open Letter to Indiana Educators about Textbooks, Computers and Instructional Materials](#).

The Early College option is a partnership with [Oakland City University](#). North Daviess students will have the opportunity to graduate from North Daviess 21<sup>st</sup> Century High School with a high school diploma and an Associate’s Degree from Oakland City University.

The cost to the student will be \$25 per credit hour and free for those students who participate in the federal free or reduced lunch program. The students will graduate with a minimum of 64 credit hours from Oakland City University, with all but approximately 15 of those 64 credit hours applicable to a Core 40 Diploma. The program will make college affordable for those who may not be able to get to a college campus or those who cannot afford to go. The 2000 census listed the North Daviess community adult population as having 36.2% of its adults with a high school diploma and 7.6% with a Bachelor’s degree or higher. The partnership will help provide the training and education needed for our community.

This “living textbook” means that, starting in the 2009-2010 school year, students in Grades 9 and 10 will be issued a laptop that will be used to load locally created content, do research, complete projects, and meet state standards. North Daviess Community Schools will evaluate each year the classes and textbooks scheduled for adoption to determine if a “new” textbook needs to be adopted or if the old textbook can be used as a classroom set and the content be driven utilizing the resources available in today’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom. North Daviess has partnered with Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard, and Matrix Integration to get the new HP Compaq Mini 2140 Notebook PC for \$440 with a 3-year warranty. The student rental will be \$55 per year for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders for 4 years and \$73.33 per year for 3 years for incoming 10<sup>th</sup> graders. This yearly fee replaces the textbook rental fee for identified classes.